

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JEAN
MAE ELIZABETH HASTINGS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the life of Ms. Jean Hastings. Jean, a resident of Long Branch, New Jersey, passed away on July 10, 2014. She was a long time community leader whose memory will live on through all those whose lives she touched.

A graduate of Long Branch High School, Jean was a political activist. She was a Democratic Party Leader, proud of her work for the Schneider Team and President Obama. She worked for the City of Long Branch as a records clerk, was a member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Guild of Long Branch and served as a Democratic Committeewoman for many years.

Jean leaves behind a loving and adoring family, including her son Harold, daughters Leslie Hill, Julia Hastings, Arlene Perozzi and Tanya Hastings, as well as siblings, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Ms. Jean Hastings for her dedication to her family and service to her community.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FREEDOM SUMMER & THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Freedom Summer and the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 is one of the most important laws enacted in this country. President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 2, 1964, signed this critical piece of legislation into law. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 is recognized as one of the most significant turning points in America's political and social development. In a country divided by racism and bigotry, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 made discriminatory practices in education, public establishments and by employers, illegal. This historic legislation served as a catalyst for efforts towards equality across the country. In addition, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, along with Freedom Summer marked the climax of intensive voter-registration activities in the South that began in 1961.

Prior to 1962, Mississippi faced significantly low levels of African-American voter registration. In fact, less than 7% of African-Americans were registered to vote within the state. In order to increase those numbers and register voters across the state Freedom Summer was born. While serving as an expanded voter registration project, Freedom Summer also helped to address the issue of the separate and unequal public education system. Efforts enacted during Freedom Summer established over 41 Freedom Schools attended by more

than 3,000 young African-American students throughout the state.

Despite major challenges, Freedom Summer left a positive legacy. The well-publicized voter registration drives brought national attention to the subject of black disenfranchisement, leading to the 1965 Voting Rights Act, federal legislation that among other things outlawed the tactics Southern states had used to prevent blacks from voting. Freedom Summer also instilled among African Americans a new consciousness and a new confidence in political action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Freedom Summer and the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

RECOGNIZING SPECIAL FORCES
SERGEANT RAMON RODRIGUEZ

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valiant veteran, Special Forces Sergeant Ramon Rodriguez. At the age of 17, Sergeant Ramon Rodriguez began his military career during his junior year at Banning High School and decided to enlist in the Army with the help of the Juvenile Court system and his father's signature. After many years of training and being stationed in Germany, Sergeant Rodriguez was sent to Vietnam to serve his country. Sergeant Rodriguez embarked on dangerous missions and led his platoon through difficult obstacles during a mission in Phu Bai. While leading five soldiers into safety, Sergeant Rodriguez suffered from a bullet that shot him from behind.

In 1967, Sergeant Rodriguez was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Heroism for his "fearless action while exposed to intense enemy fire". He was awarded with a Silver Star three times within a span of 34 days for his courageous service during the Vietnam War. Sergeant Rodriguez was also awarded three Bronze Stars with an Oak Leaf Cluster and five Purple Hearts during his 32 months of service in Vietnam for his heroism and act of valor against hostile enemy forces, and a total of 17 combat medals and awards for his service.

Sergeant Rodriguez attended the United States Ranger School and graduated with distinguished honors. After completing his service in Vietnam, Sergeant Rodriguez led the Special Forces scuba team at Fort Devens, Massachusetts and directed the team on a mission in Panama. Sergeant Rodriguez and his soldiers were responsible for the scuba and ranger training of armed forces from South American countries and established a ranger school in Honduras. In 1981, Sergeant Rodriguez earned the rank of Command Sergeant Major at the United States Sergeant Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Sergeant Rodriguez completed two more assignments before officially retiring from the Army in 1983. In 1982, Sergeant Rodriguez was nominated for the Congressional Medal of Honor. On June 11, 2008, Sergeant Rodriguez was inducted as a member of the Ranger Hall of Fame. Sergeant Rodriguez is known to be one of the most decorated combat soldiers that served in the Vietnam War.

Sergeant Rodriguez remained in the United States Army for 23 years to serve the United States. Currently, he serves as Chairman of the Veterans and Military Commission for the County of Los Angeles.

It is an absolute honor to recognize Special Forces Sergeant Rodriguez and his years of service to this country. Sergeant Rodriguez and his fellow soldiers are an inspiration for their service, dedication and unending sacrifice. Sergeant Rodriguez's heroism and courageous acts during the call of duty saved the lives of his fellow soldiers and these acts of valor deserve the greatest recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on July 14, I was absent due to airline delays between California and Washington, DC and was unable to cast my vote for Rollcalls 405 and 406. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 405—"yes": To amend chapter 15 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the Federal Register Act), to modernize the Federal Register, and for other purposes. (386-0)

Rollcall No. 406—"yes": To provide for the establishment of a body to identify and coordinate international science and technology cooperation that can strengthen the domestic science and technology enterprise and support United States foreign policy goals. (346-41)

HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION
FUNDING ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this short-term highway bill because it fails to provide a funding mechanism that will guarantee the long-term solvency of the highway trust fund which is needed to spur investments in our nation's roadways, bridges, and public transportation infrastructure.

This is just another example of our failure to govern, and as a result we are sacrificing the jobs and economic development that are critical to the progress of our nation.

This is that same scenario that has occurred under the Republican leadership of the House over and over again: when we passed the last 2-year highway bill, with the farm bill, with the budget and debt ceiling.

These short-term extensions and governing by crisis make it nearly impossible to plan for future infrastructure needs. We have a crumbling infrastructure. We can't keep pretending to fund through phony accounting gimmicks. We actually have to put money into it.

About 90 percent of the revenue in the Highway Trust Fund is generated by a federal 18.4-cent-per-gallon tax on gasoline and a 24.4-cent-per-gallon tax on diesel fuel.

Federal fuel taxes have not been increased since 1993, and because of this stagnation the

gas taxes' buying power is about 40 percent below that in 1993.

If those taxes had been adjusted to keep pace with the consumer price index, for example, the tax on gasoline, which is currently 18.4 cents per gallon, would be about 30 cents per gallon, and the tax on diesel fuel, currently 24.4 cents per gallon, would be about 40 cents per gallon.

Other factors, such as increases in fuel efficiency, have reduced demand for fuel, causing the fund's overall revenues to fall.

Rather than proposing a bill that guarantees a long-term funding mechanism, such as an increased gas tax, the House brought to the floor legislation to fund highway projects for 8 months with a series of accounting gimmicks and one-time fund transfers.

The highway bill passed in the last Congress only authorized funding for two years. For two years we have known that this problem was coming, yet the House Ways & Means Committee has not had a single hearing on transportation finance.

We need to act to invest in our nation's transportation system, but under this bill we are simply dodging a problem. A real solution will require the political courage and leadership that we have failed to demonstrate here in the House, today.

HONORING JOSEPH "BUDDY" GIGLIOTTI, RECIPIENT OF AGC NYS

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joseph "Buddy" Gigliotti as a recipient of the Associated General Contractors New York State S.I.R. Award.

The S.I.R. Award is AGC of America's highest honor and it recognizes those who exemplify the AGC motto of Skill, Integrity, and Responsibility. In receiving the S.I.R. Award, Mr. Gigliotti joins the ranks of the true greats of AGC NYS and the construction industry in New York—including, most recently, Jeff Zogg; Marty Galasso, Sr.; and Richard Forrestel.

Mr. Gigliotti is a past President of the AGC NYS Chapter, and has become one of the industry's most respected leaders. We are well aware of the significant contributions he has made to the construction industry in New York State.

A lifelong resident of Utica, New York, Mr. Gigliotti joined Allied Chemicals in 1975 as the New York Area manager. After its merger with Barrett Industries, he served as Barrett's Marketing Manager. In his role, Mr. Gigliotti provided strategic consulting and sales strategy development, eventually helping Barrett become a national leader in transportation infrastructure construction. In 1990, Mr. Gigliotti left Barrett and continues to provide strategic consulting to companies under his firm, JGK Associates. He currently works for Lancaster Development, playing a key role in its marketing efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I wholeheartedly congratulate Mr. Joseph "Buddy" Gigliotti on this special occasion.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,603,731,782,433.70. We've added \$6,976,854,733,520.62 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE POMPEO

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mr. POMPEO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 380, 382, 383, 384, 386, 387, and 401 I was unavoidably absent.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 418 I mistakenly voted "no" when my intention was to vote "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was not present for two rollcall votes on Wednesday, July 16, 2014. Had I been present, I would have voted in this manner: rollcall vote No. 415—Fleming of Louisiana Amendment No. 1—"no," and rollcall vote No. 416—Gosar of Arizona Amendment—"no."

HONORING THE HEROIC SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF INDIANAPOLIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER PERRY RENN

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is with a burdened heart I rise today to honor the life of a truly outstanding public servant, Officer Perry Renn. For more than three decades

Officer Renn served his country and the City of Indianapolis with courage and integrity. Tragically, Officer Renn was killed in the line of duty on July 5, 2014.

Officer Perry Renn protected the citizens of Indianapolis for 21 years as a member of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department. A career police officer, Renn made the conscious decision every day to place himself in harm's way to make Indianapolis a safer and more prosperous city. It was in this pursuit that he ultimately gave his life. On the night of his passing, Officer Renn was responding to a call of shots being fired in a residential neighborhood.

Day after day, Officer Renn displayed the compassion and integrity of a true public servant. After graduating from East High School in Phoenix, AZ, he began a 10 year enlistment in the United States Army's 82nd Airborne Division. During this time, Renn served his country as a paratrooper and jumpmaster. He served two tours in Korea and also helped to restore constitutional government to the island nation of Grenada during the 1983 liberation of the country, Operation Urgent Fury.

Yet another example of Officer Renn's heroism was shown in 2003 when he received the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department's Medal of Bravery for preventing an armed man from taking his own life. Every single day, Officer Renn displayed his admirable character and passion for helping others.

Few men and women are brave enough to answer the call of duty like Officer Renn. When he pinned on his badge the evening of July 5, no one could have dreamed that he would give his life so selflessly protecting the city he called home. As a former Deputy Mayor of Indianapolis and a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I am forever grateful to Officer Renn and to police forces all across the nation who work tirelessly to protect and serve their fellow Americans.

Officer Renn is a hero. His lifetime of service to the United States of America and the City of Indianapolis will never be forgotten. My condolences and well wishes go out to his wife, Lynn, and Officer Renn's entire family during this difficult time. My thoughts and prayers are with them.

HOUSE'S FAILURE TO CONSIDER HR 5051: THE PROTECT WOMEN'S HEALTH FROM CORPORATE INTERFERENCE ACT (NOT MY BOSS' BUSINESS ACT)

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, if anyone had told me that at the beginning of my career that I would fight 40 years for the right for contraception, I would never have believed it. We thought *Griswold v. Connecticut* had settled this, but no. It's been a constant war to control women, which is exactly what this is about.

Now, this audacious Supreme Court, which never fails to surprise, decided that bosses can tell you what kind of healthcare you can have and whether or not you can practice contraception. More specifically, the 5 men on this court decided whether women can have equal access to contraception.